

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 PORT O 02611 111826Z
ACTION ARA-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-20
/080 W

-----081008 112135Z /73

R 111822Z SEP 78
FM AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2934

UNCLAS PORT OF SPAIN 02611

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PGOV, PINT, TD
SUBJECT: PRESS ARTICLE DEPLORING "LEADERSHIP VACUUM"

1. LENGTHY ARTICLE IN THE CONSERVATIVE "SUNDAY GUARDIAN" SEPTEMBER 10 STRONGLY CRITICIZES PRIME MINISTER WILLIAMS FOR ALLEGED LACK OF NATIONAL DIRECTION. "WE HAVE A LEADER WHO HAS NO DIALOGUE WITH THE PEOPLE OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGOHOW CAN WE POSSIBLY ASPIRE TO AND ACHIEVE OUR OBVIOUS DESTINY OF BEING A TRULY GREAT LITTLE NATION WHEN WE DON'T KNOW WHAT OUR LEADER IS DOING OR WHERE HE IS GOING, AND WE CAN'T APPROACH HIM BEHIND HIS FORTIFIED PREMISES, WALLS, GATES, POLICE AND ENDLESS SECURITY PERSONNEL?...WE NOW HAVE A PRINCIPAL WHO WON'T SPEAK TO HIS STUDENTS (A REFERENCE TO THE SO-CALLED UNIVERSITY OF WOODFORD SQUARE, THE PARK WHERE WILLIAMS USED TO DELIVER HIS CALLS FOR INDEPENDENCE) OR EVEN ACKNOWLEDGE THEIR PRESENCE....WE HAVE A LEADER WHO DOES NOT HAVE MUCH TO SAY IN PARLIAMENT, WHO DOES NOT TALK TO THE PRESS. WHO SHUNS TELEVISION AND RADIO. AND WHO HOLDS NO PUBLIC MEETINGS....HE SEEMS TO HATE US, BE UNKIND TO US, AND HEAP VILIFICATION ON US.... (WE ARE) VICTIMS OF HIS NOW INFAMOUS COLD TREATMENT THAT HE DISHES OUT EVEN TO HIS CLOSEST AIDES....AS THE HEAD OF ONE OF THE MOST CENTRALISED GOVERNMENTS IN THE HEMISPHERE WHERE EVEN THE SILLIEST AND MOST INCONSEQUENTIAL OF THINGS

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HAVE TO COME FOR HIS ATTENTION AND APPROVAL, HE SURELY KNOWS THAT OUR NATIONAL ATTITUDE TO WORK AND ACHIEVEMENT, AND TO HIS ONCE VAUNTED "PRODUCTION," IS IN JEOPARDY, YET HE TREATS IT WITH STONY SILENCE AND NONCHALANCE, PREFER- RING TO REMAIN A RECLUSE, LOCKED AWAY IN HIS RESIDENCE, UNWILLING SO MUCH AS TO BE SEEN EXPRESSING INTEREST IN OUR DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS, AND TRIBULATIONS....NOR IS THE

OPPOSITION ANY BETTER. MAJOR ISSUES AND EVENTS TAKE PLACE,
OR FAIL TO OCCUR, BUT OUR OPPOSITION, OR WHAT'S LEFT OF
IT, SAYS NOTHING, DOES NOTHING."

2. ARTICLE BEING AIR POUCHED. O'MAHONY

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, CONDEMNATION, POLITICAL LEADERS, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 sep 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978PORTO02611
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
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Format: TEL
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780981/aaaacphi.tel
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Litigation Codes:
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Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESS ARTICLE DEPLORING "LEADERSHIP VACUUM"
TAGS: PGOV, PINT, TD
To: STATE
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